

PEACE TO YOU.

LUKE 24:36



April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter
9:30 AM Worship

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. – P.O. Box 218
Washburn, North Dakota 58577
www.flcwashburn.com
701-462-3775

WOV SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRELUDE AND BELLS

AS WE GATHER

(Themes of wonder and amazement following Christ's resurrection are found all over today's readings as the Easter message and the power of newness of life through Christ begin to move out into the world. Even today, more than 2000 years later, we are impacted by the same Easter power and newness of life in Jesus. Welcome to God's house today!)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(put prayer requests on yellow cards)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESSp. 10

L: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

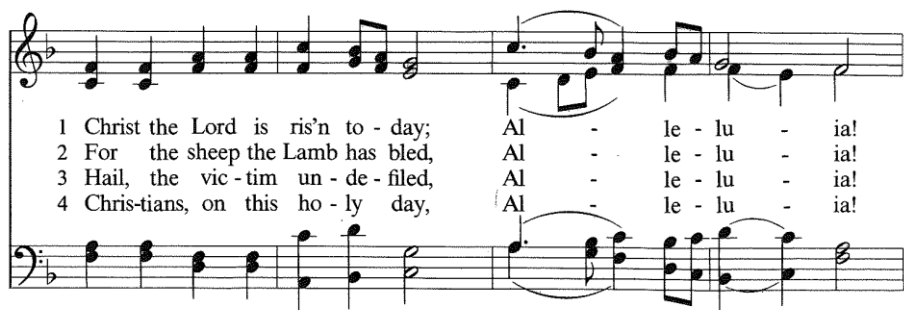
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

L: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen

GATHERING SONGLBW #128
"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!"

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia! 128



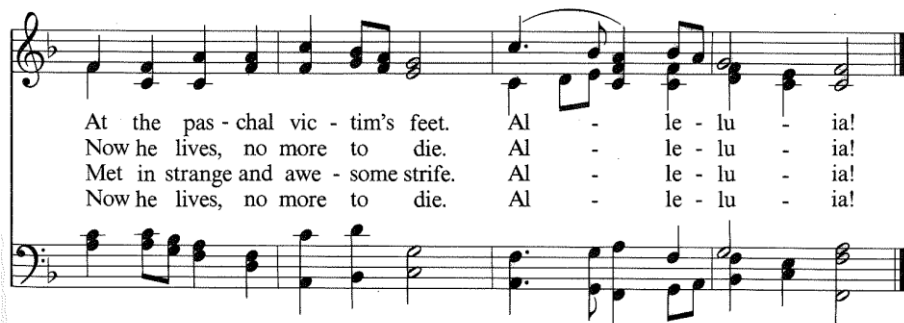
1 Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 Hail, the vic-tim un - de - filed, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Chris-tians, on this ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!



Chris-tians, has-ten on your way; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Sin - less in the sin - ner's stead. Al - le - lu - ia!
 God and sin-ners rec - on - ciled, Al - le - lu - ia!
 All your grate-ful hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia!



Of - fer praise with love re - plete, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!
 When con-tend - ing death and life, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Al - le - lu - ia!



At the pas - chal vic - tim's feet. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Met in strange and awe - some strife. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Now he lives, no more to die. Al - le - lu - ia!

GREETING – (Lent to Pentecost) p. 46

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:13

C: And also with you.

L: The word is near you,

C: on your lips and in your heart.

L: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

L: Faith comes from what is heard,

C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Romans 10

SCRIPTURE SONG p. 47

SCRIPTURE SONG

This canticle or another scripture song or hymn may be sung.

Refrain



Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to



Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.



Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?

III For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All
na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,
for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

Revelation 7:10, 15:3-4

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

L: Let us pray.

C: **God of abundance, you make yourself known to us in the breaking of bread and reveal to us the mystery of your life death and resurrection through the scriptures. Embolden us to live our lives in ways that bear witness to who we are — one in Christ Jesus our Lord; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READINGActs 3:11-21
(Crowds are filled with amazement as Peter heals a lame man. Peter uses the moment to call people to repentance and faith in Jesus, the Risen Savior.)

¹¹While {the lame man who had been healed} clung to Peter and John, all the people, utterly astounded, ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a

murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name — by faith in his name — has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. ¹⁷And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.”

PSALM (Read Responsively)..... Psalm 4
(Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself. Trusting in God we can be at peace in all things.)

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

**²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**

³But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

⁵Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶There are many who say, “Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!”

⁷You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

SECOND READING 1 John 3:1-7
(John declares the magnitude of God's love by telling us that on account of Jesus Christ and faith in His name, we have a new, unalterable identity: We are children of God.)

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

This acclamation or a hymn, song, or canticle may be sung before and/or after the Gospel:



C Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip-tures.



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING Luke 24:36-49

(The resurrected Jesus appears to the disciples and brings them his peace. Opening their minds he helps them understand that his death and resurrection were the fulfillment of the scriptures and the pathway of eternal salvation for all people.)

³⁶As {the disciples} were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!"

³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while

they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMNLBW #143
"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

143 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

1 Now all the vault of heav'n re-sounds In praise of love that
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings, There - fore our heart with
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt-less love; Set heart and will on
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring And with the heav'n-ly

still a - bounds: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 rap - ture sings: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 things a - bove That we con - quer through your tri - umph;
 bless - ed sing: "Christ has tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!"

Sing, choirs of an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song
 Now still he comes to give us life And by his pres -
 Grant grace suf - fi - cient for life's day That by our lives
 Be to the Fa - ther, and our Lord, To Spir - it blest,

of glo - ry here: "Christ has tri - umphed! Christ has tri - umphed!"
 ence stills all strife. Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 we tru - ly say: Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!
 most ho - ly God, All the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



© Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
8 8 8 8 8 8 and alleluias

SERMON Brent Petersen

SPECIAL MUSIC Choir
"We Shall Rise"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD p. 49

L: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit. *Ephesians 1:13-14*

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

L: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *Jude 20*

L: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Jude 21*

L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!** 2 Corinthians 5:17

L: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

L: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our
sins, known and unknown, things done and left
undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live
and serve you in the newness of life, to the honor and
glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen**

L: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in
eternal life.

C: Amen

L: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage
one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

2 Corinthians 13:11

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY – (Lent to Pentecost)..... p. 50
“Glory to you”



C (Advent to Transfiguration) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Lent to Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Season after Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

OFFERTORY PRAYER – (Lent to Pentecost) p. 51

L: Let us pray.

L: Gracious God,

C: in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS

L: As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

Each portion of the prayers concludes with these words:

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C: Amen

LORD'S PRAYERp. 52

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

BLESSING

L: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.

C: Amen

L: May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: Amen

L: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

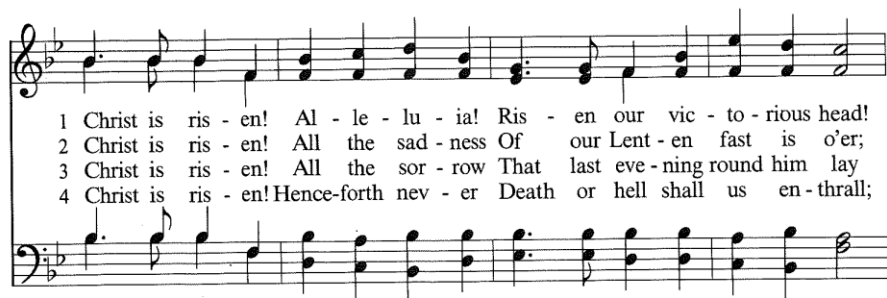
C: Amen

Romans 15

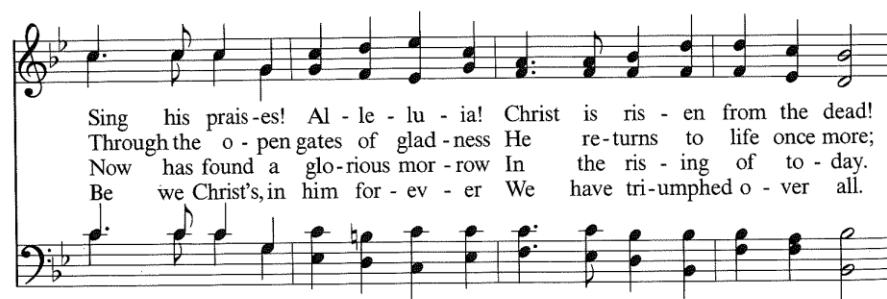
SENDING SONGLBW #131

“Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!”

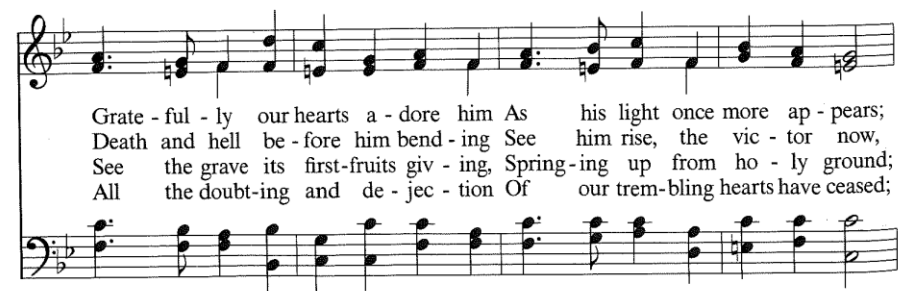
Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!



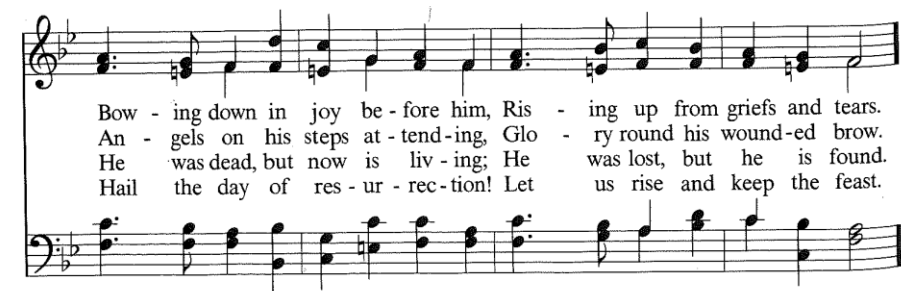
1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness Of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row That last eve - ning round him lay
 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er Death or hell shall us en - thrall;



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
 Through the o - pen gates of glad - ness He re - turns to life once more;
 Now has found a glo - rious mor - row In the ris - ing of to - day.
 Be we Christ's, in him for - ev - er We have tri - umphed o - ver all.



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him As his light once more ap - pears;
 Death and hell be - fore him bend - ing See him rise, the vic - tor now,
 See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, Spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;
 All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion Of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;



Bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, Ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
 An - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, Glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.
 He was dead, but now is liv - ing; He was lost, but he is found.
 Hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic -

to - rious head! Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ is ris - en from the dead!

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.

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Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

- INTERIM PASTOR..... Pastor Paul Krueger
- WORSHIP LEADER..... Brent Petersen
- ACOLYTES..... Berandt Olafson & Brady Vollmuth
- READER Randy Hall
- ORGANIST Theresa Petersen
- USHERS/GREETERS Ken & Maybell Job
- VIRTUAL SERVICE Wade & Stacy Boeshans
- COFFEE HOUR Brianna Sayler, Chelsey Brandt
Janet lazier
- ALTAR GUILD..... Janet Hanson & Nicole Albers
- SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS Rick & LeAnn Richard
Randy & Janet Hanson

First Lutheran Church
709 5th Ave. - PO BOX 218
Washburn ND 58577
701-462-3775

INTERIM PASTOR: Paul Krueger email:

revpaulkrueger@gmail.com

Cell phone: 701-240-4712

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY: Jeannette Rost

Church Office: 701-462-3775

Email: flc@westriv.com

Website: www.flcwashburn.com

COORDINATOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES: Melissa Rothe

Email: fly@westriv.com

OFFICE HOURS: T-T-F 9:00 am - 12:30 pm, 1:30 - 3:30

W – 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

ORGANISTS: Theresa Petersen and LeAnn Richard

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Randy Hall

BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Gwen Hall

CUSTODIAN: Jeff Schmidt

Our Mission

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

Welcome to all who have come to worship.

Welcome to worship in the name of the God of life, the risen Jesus, and the Holy Spirit who empowers our discipleship.
Amen.

Visitors

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today and ask that you sign our guest book in the narthex.

Nursery

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

Thank you for your giving

Sunday, April 7, Attendance – 195

Online Viewing – 21

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$7,656.97

Hearing Assist

First Lutheran has hearing assist systems to be used during the worship services. If you feel you could benefit from this or want to try it, please see the ushers in the narthex.

Pastoral Care

Please call Pastor Paul (701-240-4712) or the church office (701-462-3775) if you or a loved one are in the hospital or know you will be going to the hospital. The church does not get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name. We want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

This week we pray for:

This Week's New Prayer Requests: Jerry Smith

Prayers of Christian Sympathy: Family of Judd Hinton

Long Term prayer requests:

Members: Alton Krebsbach, Melisa Chrest, Howard Johnson, Karen Goehring

* The person in parenthesis is who the person is related to or friends of. Please feel free to ask these individuals how best you can pray for their family/friend.

This month we pray for:

Members: Alice Richard, Jackie Olson

Friends & Family: Warren Pauling (Audrey Pauling), Scott Wagner (Arden & Sande Wagner)

This Quarter we pray for:

Members and Nonmembers: Perry Thyberg, Corrine Kerzmann (Donna Gunderson)

Military Prayer and Card List

We pray for the Men & Women in our Military who protect our country, especially those assigned to serve overseas or away from home.

- **Members of First Lutheran on Active Duty in the Military and the National Guard:**
SGT Bryce Rost – Army National Guard
SPC Olivia Retterath – National Guard - Deployed
SPC Christian Gardner – Army National Guard
SPC Cassidy Sommer – National Guard
SGT Jonathan Melvard – Army National Guard
- **Friends and Family on Active Duty in the Military and in the National Guard:**
SGT Dustin Enockson – National Guard
Emily Johnson – Air Force
Bryar Anderson – Marines
1SGT Jordan Ternes – Army National Guard
Tech. SGT Andre Austin – Air Force
Hunter Feigum – National Guard
Morris Duffy – Medical Air Guard
Brandon Searcy – Navy – Deployed
Adam Walsvik – National Guard

Notice of Prayer List Policy

We have a monthly /quarterly prayer list cycle. When you add someone to our prayer list the request will remain on our monthly list for four weeks and then be removed. If you would like to have the request moved to our quarterly list, please contact the office and the request will be added to our “This Quarter we pray for:” list for the next three months. Please help us keep our prayer list current by communicating updates to the office at 701-462-3775. Thank you all for your faithful prayers for all of God’s people.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Ken & Maybell Job on the death of their brother-in-law, Judd Hinton. May God give them comfort in this time of sorrow.

Large Print Bulletins

We have large print bulletins for those wanting or needing larger print. Ask the ushers for one.

Deborah Bible Study

Deborah Bible Study will meet this Thursday, April 18th, at 9:30 am at the church. Donna Gunderson and LeAnn Richard host. Study is Tender Warrior – lesson 3.

Join the MEDIA TEAM!

- Slide Operator: Use an iPad to change the slides during a church service. You can sit in your usual pew!
- Behind the Scenes Builder: Create, organize, and import the slides before a service.

Willing to learn now? Melissa is ready to train anyone now! Contact Melissa Rothe to learn more! **An informational meeting will be on April 21st during coffee hour.**

Prayer Warriors Wanted

We are looking for members of our congregation to become Prayer Warriors for our upcoming graduating seniors! If you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to Kacy Hardt at 701-351-0742. First Lutheran Seniors this year are: Aaron Blumhagen, James Chrest, Madelyn Jaeger, Carter Knutson, Alex Retterath, Justin Scheresky and Ashlyn Schmitz.

Camp of the Cross Camp Scholarships

THANKS to the FLC Church Council, FLCW, Evangelism Committee and an anonymous party, all registration fees will be covered for the FLC campers to Camp of the Cross Ministries this summer. Please let Peggy Moran know by **May 19, 2024**, if you have any campers registered so funds can be sent to the camp before camp season begins.

Connections

The March/April issue of *Connections* is in the magazine rack in the narthex. Take a copy today to read updates on the LCMC and NALC plus other interesting articles.

MOTHER'S DAY FLORAL WORKSHOP

DATE: WEDNESDAY MAY 1ST 5:30-7:00PM

HOSTED BY: *RAISING HOPE MINISTRY*

LOCATION: *FRONTIER FLORAL & GIFTS*

For Mother's who have endured pregnancy and infant loss



Please contact FLC office by April 29th to register!

701-462-3775

Our Daily Bread and Portals of Prayer

The March/April/May issue of *Our Daily Bread* and the April - June 2024 issue of *Portals of Prayer* are in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy to use with your daily devotions.

COMMUNITY AND AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Washburn Volunteer Ambulance Service invites you to their annual **Pancake Breakfast** today, April 14th, from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at the ambulance bay. Please use the side door. They will be serving pancakes, sausage, eggs and beverages. All proceeds help your local ambulance service keep up with training and new technologies to better serve the community in case of an emergency. Breakfast sponsored by The Cabin Bar and Grill.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	10:45 AM	Sunday School Fireside Bible Reading
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting AI-Anon Meeting
TUES.	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
WED.	9:30 AM	Friendship Bible Study
	5:30 – 6:15 PM	Confirmation Meal
	6:15 PM	Confirmation
	7:00 PM	Bell Choir
	7:45 PM	Choir FLY
THURS.	9:30 AM	Deborah Bible Study
SUN.	9:30 AM	Worship
	10:30 AM	Fellowship/Coffee Hour
	10:45 AM	Sunday School Fireside Bible Reading
	2:00 PM	Raising Hope Ministry
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting AI-Anon Meeting

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Third Sunday of Easter — April 14, 2024

“And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’”

- Luke 24:41a -

This is such an odd statement. How can they be happy about something they can't believe is happening? Yet, haven't we all experienced that at some point in our lives? Have you ever been so joyously happy and yet at the same time questioned how you could be so lucky? Have you ever received an award you didn't think you deserved and yet accepted it with joy that you were the recipient? Have you ever seen a test result thinking that you surely failed only to discover that you did very well? Everyone can remember a time they have received something with joy but also disbelief.

That's what happened to the disciples after the resurrection. They were so grief-stricken over the death of Jesus that his appearances probably did not make a difference at first. Imagine the conversation that was going on at the beginning of today's Gospel lesson: “You saw Jesus? But He's dead!” “Was it a ghost?” They were probably arguing about what was seen and experienced. Perhaps the witnesses saw someone that looked like Jesus. The witnesses' testimony was rejected because it was ridiculous and downright impossible. One by one they began to see the truth when they witnessed Jesus with their own eyes. One by one they realized that they could no longer ignore the reality: Jesus was alive.

It is no surprise, then, that Jesus' followers were both joyous and disbelieving. After all, this was beyond their understanding. The disciples who had seen Him probably said “See! We told you so!” Yet, even those disciples were probably scared and confused. How do you respond to a physical being that is a man and yet not a man? Even though Jesus had promised that He would be raised from the dead, the disciples never expected this turn of events. They were worried about the future; they were worried about their lives. Jesus was back among them, but how?

The disciples' questions were answered with a simple request from Jesus, “Have you anything here to eat?” He wanted them to know that it was all true. He was alive again. He was different, yet He was the same. In joy as well as in happy disbelief, the disciples shared another meal with their Master.